



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, V CORPS
UNIT 29355
APO AE 09014

**REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF**

Policy Memorandum # 23

DEC 28 2004

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

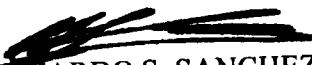
SUBJECT: V Corps Tactical Environmental Policy

1. Warfare and training by its very nature, is destructive to humans and the natural environment. Environmental damage is a consequence of training and combat. However, our leaders are charged with restricting that force and conforming to the law of land warfare: those written and unwritten conventions and customs that protect against unnecessary suffering and facilitate the restoration of peace.
2. Our Soldiers and leaders must exercise restraint while training and more so when at war. For example, during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), the military was ordered to limit damage to the environment, works of art, churches, monuments, archives and libraries, whenever possible, without endangering troops or the mission. The field commanders incorporated this information into their standard decision-making process and made judgments based on military necessity.
3. As the Corps prepares for future missions I charge every Soldier and leader with the duty of avoiding unnecessary environmental damage, not only in training, but also across the spectrum of operational missions. A mission's success may be determined by political or socio-economic stability, both of which are affected by environmental factors and resources.
4. The Corps must be able to identify ways to protect the natural environment while executing the full range of the intended missions by doing the following:
 - a. Developing tactical environmental practices and procedures which support Army and USAREUR requirements for the development and implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS).
 - b. Considering the environment in planning and decision-making in conjunction with other essential considerations of USAREUR policy.
 - c. Protecting the environment of the Host Nation (HN) training areas as a means of retaining resources for mission purposes.

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- d. Using environmental risk assessment and environmental management principles to integrate environmental considerations into mission performance.
 - e. Instilling an environmental ethic in Soldiers.
 - f. Understand the linkage between environmental protection issues and their associated impact on safety, force protection, and force health protection.
5. Commanders and leaders are charged with establishing and maintaining a viable environmental program which stresses total hazardous material and hazardous waste management. Every reasonable effort should be made to reduce hazardous material acquisition, storage, and usage, which will subsequently mitigate hazardous waste and disposal cost. This will allow more funding for training, force protection, and quality life projects.
6. The Soldier's creed exhorts Soldiers' dedication to maintaining their arms, equipment, and themselves. Similarly, each of us must dedicate ourselves to maintaining the environment; it is an extension of our professionalism. Sound environmental stewardship helps keep the Corps relevant and ready!
7. Victory Corps!


RICARDO S. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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